

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted simultaneous with the filing of a Rule 53(b) continuation of pending Application Serial No. 09/034,561, filed March 3, 1998, which has been noticed for allowance.

The specification is amended to correct a minor editorial error. Additionally, the title and abstract have been amended to better reflect the invention to which the present application is directed. Care has been taken to avoid the addition of new matter.

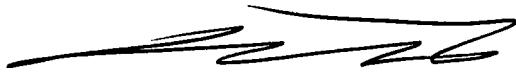
As originally filed, parent '561 application included claims 1-33. Claim 1 is cancelled herein and claims 2-33 are cancelled in the Submittal Form for the present continuation application. New claims 34-52 are added by this preliminary amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed local telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 12-0429 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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